

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application;

1. (Currently Amended) A composition ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

one or a plurality of species of an organic polymer compound having biodegradability, a flame retardant additive, and a hydrolysis inhibitor for the organic polymer compound having biodegradability.

2. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

the organic polymer compound having biodegradability is either a polysaccharide, an aliphatic polyester, a polyamino acid, polyvinyl alcohol, a polyalkylene glycol, or a copolymer comprising at least one of the compounds.

3. (Currently Amended) The composition according to Claim [[1]] 2, characterized in that:

the aliphatic polyester is either polylactic acid, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxybutyric acid, polyhydroxyvaleric acid, polyethylene succinate, polybutylene succinate, polybutylene adipate, polymalic acid, a microbiologically synthesized polyester, or a copolymer comprising at least one of the compounds.

4. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is at least one compound selected from a hydroxide compound, a phosphorus compound, and a silica compound.

5. (Currently Amended) The composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is [[a]] the hydroxide compound having a purity of 99.5% or more.

6. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is a particulate hydroxide compound having a BET specific surface area of 5.0 m<sup>2</sup>/g or less.

7. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is a particulate hydroxide compound having an average particle size of 100 μm or less.

8. (Currently Amended) The composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is [[a]] the silica compound having a silicon dioxide content of 50% or more.

9. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is a particulate silica compound having an average particle size of 50  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

10. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

the hydrolysis inhibitor is at least one species of compound selected from a carbodiimide compound, an isocyanate compound, and an oxazoline compound.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for producing [[the]] a composition ~~according to Claim 1~~, characterized by mixing one or more species of an organic polymer compound having biodegradability, a flame retardant additive, and a hydrolysis inhibitor for the organic polymer compound having biodegradability.

12. (Currently Amended) A shaped article ~~comprising the~~ comprised of a composition according to Claim 1 of one or a plurality of species of an organic polymer compound having biodegradability, a flame retardant additive, and a hydrolysis

inhibitor for the organic polymer compound having biodegradability.

13. (Original) The shaped article according to Claim 12, characterized in that:

the shaped article is a housing for electrical appliance.

14. (Cancelled)